

the Engineer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the Command and General Staff College and the National War College.

Colonel Prettyman-Beck's decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with star, the Military Outstanding Service Volunteer Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Parachutist Badge, and the Army and Joint Staff Identification Badges.

Colonel Prettyman-Beck has shown tremendous commitment and devotion to her country. Today we recognize her for her unwavering patriotism and dedication to her profession and the American people.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Colonel Yvonne J. Prettyman-Beck.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2006*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed one vote on May 3, 2006. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 781 (Rollcall 120).

WASHINGTON 8TH DISTRICT  
SCHOOLS NOTED AS NATION'S  
BEST

### HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2006*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the tremendous students, teachers and administrators at Newport High School, Interlake High School, Bellevue High School, International High School and Sammamish High School, all located in Bellevue, Washington. These schools were named to Newsweek magazine's list of "America's Best High Schools."

For the second year in a row, three high schools in Bellevue were in the top 50—Newport is ranked 37th, Interlake is ranked 44th and Bellevue is ranked 49th. The International School in Bellevue is ranked 57th, up from 160th last year. Sammamish of Bellevue is ranked 186th.

Sincere congratulations to: Newport High School's Principal, Patty Siegwarth and Assistant Principals, James Peterson and Bethany Spinler and the Knights; Interlake High School's Principal, Sharon Collins and Assistant Principals, Eric Cochran and Keith Schacht and the Saints; Bellevue High School's Principal, Mike Bacigalupi and Assistant Principals, Doug Sovde and Johnnie Gregory and the Wolverines; International High School's Principal, Peter Bang-Knudsen, and International's student body; and Sammamish High School's Principal, Spencer Welch and Assistant Principals, Laura Bang-Knudsen, Jennifer Rose and Andrea Pfeifer and the Totems.

Newsweek determines its ranking based on the number of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests taken by all of the schools' students in 2005. These tests are the best measure of overall college readiness, according to Newsweek.

Newsweek noted the schools for Creating Good Citizens, Celebrating Liberal Arts, Preparing Students for Work, Emphasizing Science and Technology and Reaching Out to Everyone as well.

I am filled with pride for these students and teachers, that their dedication to their education has distinguished them from others. Their accomplishments are noteworthy, but their drive to get where they are—the countless hours of preparation it entailed—is the real accomplishment. Juma Ikangaa, a Tanzanian marathon runner once said about preparing for marathons, "The will to win means nothing without the will to prepare."

Teachers and administrators at Newport High School, Interlake High School, Bellevue High School, International High School and Sammamish High School have prepared students not just for college with an outstanding high school education, but for life with a real lesson that will serve them well—real accomplishments take time and sustained effort to achieve. They do not happen overnight. They do not come easy. They are often impeded by unsuccessful attempts. These schools, students, teachers and administrators have demonstrated the philosophy Aristotle spoke of when he said, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." Don't break the habit.

#### TRIBUTE TO ERIC KING

### HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2006*

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a fallen soldier from my district. Army Specialist Eric King of Vancouver, Washington, was killed in Baghdad on April 22. He was 29 years old. Specialist King leaves behind his wife, Tracie, and daughters Ashlin and Shealyn, who will remember their father and husband's love of laughter, fishing, and the Northwest. His death is a tragedy not only for this family but for our community. On April 22, Specialist King was driving the lead Humvee in a convoy patrolling a Baghdad neighborhood when a roadside bomb exploded and killed King and his three comrades in the vehicle.

The Army awarded King the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal and Army Service Medal.

Specialist King was born in Florida and moved to Vancouver in 1996. He left a union job as a truck driver in Portland to enlist in 2004. He was assigned to the First Squadron, 67th Armored Battalion in Baghdad.

My thoughts and prayers are with Mr. King's family, and with the families and loved ones of all our nation's fallen heroes. Let this stand as a solemn reminder of just how many brave men and women have made the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives for our country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. TOM OSBORNE

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2006*

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, there is a great deal of cynicism about politics today. H.R. 4975, the Lobbying Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, is a significant step toward additional transparency and accountability in the legislative process and will ensure that everyone has equal access to the legislative system. Had I been present on May 3, 2006, I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 4975.

HONORING MRS. PHYLLIS  
McCARRICK

### HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2006*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a beloved constituent and community leader, Mrs. Phyllis McCarrick, of Rocky Point, New York, who recently passed away at the age of eighty-three.

Born Phyllis Healy in Arlington, Massachusetts, she served in the Navy during World War II and later settled in Rocky Point with her childhood sweetheart and husband, Mr. Thomas McCarrick. After running a milk delivery service, Phyllis and her husband opened the McCarrick Dairy and Grocery store, which grew into a beloved landmark in our community, and is owned and operated by their sons today.

Named Rocky Point's Citizen of the Year in 1999, Phyllis raised money for Catholic charities and was a Cub Scout den mother in addition to running a successful business. Her enduring contributions to eastern Long Island will always be remembered by our community with fondness and deep gratitude.

Phyllis is survived by eight children, nineteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's First Congressional District, I express our profound sorrow following Phyllis' passing as well as the gratitude of our community, which will always remember her extraordinary life and lifelong dedication to Rocky Point, New York.

#### FEDERAL ENERGY PRICE PROTECTION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 3, 2006*

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the tremendous impact that the cost of gasoline is having on my West Virginia constituents and on working families across the country. Rural communities that make up a large portion of my congressional district are especially hard hit by rising fuel costs because of the distance many people must travel to work and school and the limited public transportation options.